



U.S. Department of Justice

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Eastern District of Wisconsin*

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NEWS SUMMARY: Green Bay

Steve M. Biskupic, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, announced recently that on April 8, 2003, Leland David Haskins Jr., former secretary-treasurer of Division 173 of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers (BLE) was charged in a four-count indictment. The indictment alleges that between August, 2000 and March, 2002, Haskins embezzled more than \$41,000 from Division 173 union funds and used these funds for his own benefit. Today, in the Green Bay Division of the Eastern District of Wisconsin, Haskins pled not guilty to the charges.

Haskins (age 51), was secretary-treasurer of Division 173 (Fond du Lac, Wisconsin) for approximately two years. The labor union, chartered in late 1997, represents about 100 members who are employed as locomotive engineers by the Wisconsin Central Division of the Canadian National Railway. The embezzled funds belonged to the labor union and, in essence, to Haskins' fellow union members. He concealed his actions from the members by falsifying check signatures, making false entries in records, and by giving false financial reports at union meetings.

Federal law specifically prohibits the embezzlement of union funds. Embezzlement of union funds in a violation of Title 29, United States Code, Section 501 (c). If convicted, Haskins faces a maximum term of five years in prison and a fine of up to \$10,000.

The case was investigated by the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Labor-Management Standards and has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Gregory J. Haanstad.

The public is cautioned that an indictment is merely the formal method of returning charges against an individual and does not constitute inference of his or her guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until such time, if ever, that the government established his or her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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